

## Why Jailbreaking phones and tablets (and for that matter gaming systems) should be allowed?

Hello, whoever might be reading this. I'd like to start off by saying that I actually haven't jailbroken any of my devices (I currently own an iPad, Android phone and PS3); however, I do support the fundamental right of jailbreaking and here are my reasons why.

1. If I buy something, it is my right to do with it what I please as long as I am not in any way affecting anyone else with what I do. For example, if I were to buy a television set and decided to hit it with a hammer a few times, that is my prerogative and no one should be able to tell me I cannot do that. That is a right guaranteed to all Americans (as well as it should be to all people). Ownership implies owning all aspects of something, which means that if I want to wipe that device clean and use it as a paperweight, I can.
2. The argument behind why jailbreaking should not be allowed is ludicrous and an obvious cover up. Apple, for instance, does not want people jailbreaking devices for several reasons: people could then steal apps without paying for them which loses Apple their profits and hurts the developers, it takes Apple out of control of how the device works, and they are also concerned about people complaining about the functionality of a device that is jailbroken that they do not want responsibility for. I would have to say that while all of these are valid reasons, they are also a bit exaggerated. The percentage of people that will jailbreak their devices is going to be minimal (I doubt it would cross 5% for any of the smartphones OS's). So in terms of loss of revenue for themselves and the app developers, it should be minimal. Jailbreaking requires a decent knowledge of technology which many users of smartphones do not have.
3. If jailbreaking is going to be made illegal there should at least be a clause that allows for the removal of bloatware installed with the phone. The user should have the right to remove software from the phone (with the exception of essential software) that slows it down and ruins the experience (which is especially true with Android phones on most networks). Installing Sprint NFL or any other apps should be a choice, and they should be removable. At least on PC's that come with all of this unneeded software they can be uninstalled. However, no one will do this because then the carriers will get upset when they lose a source of revenue. However, as the carrier IQ incident proved, users should have control over what is installed on their phone and there needs to be some level of transparency. Otherwise, the carriers and phone makers can run rampant and do whatever pleases them (read: makes them the most money without care for the end user).
4. Jailbreaking does not mean stealing software or trying to mess with the maker of that software. Some users just want more control over their experience, and what is so wrong with that? We are not discussing someone buying a plane ticket and then trying to pilot the plane for a little while to fly the way they like. This is a discussion about control and how the software and phone makers, not to mention the carriers, do not want to give this up. None of these companies are

hurting for money while the everyday user probably is. Why are they getting more control than they already have by increasing data prices, phone prices and applying all sorts of restrictions?

All I am saying is that some thought needs to go into this before making something illegal that really should just be a right. I hope that I have made the side of the user a bit clearer. Thank you for your time.